

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace all pending claims with the listing of claims hereinbelow:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for treating sewage by using granulated activated sludge, comprising:

an anaerobic granulation tank having an agitator for granulating suspended microorganisms with irrigation force of influent sewage or returned water and agitation power by a[[n]] first agitator to thereby generate sludge;

a first transport pipe for transporting supernatant of the anaerobic granulation tank except the sludge granulated in the anaerobic granulation tank;

an indirect aeration tank for supplying oxygen to the supernatant transported through the first transport pipe;

a second transport pipe for transporting aqueous solution saturated with dissolved oxygen by receiving oxygen in the indirect aeration tank;

an aerobic granulation tank for granulating suspended microorganisms with irrigation force of the aqueous solution transported through the second transport pipe and agitation power by a[[n]] second agitator, the aerobic granulation tank including the

second agitator;

a third transport pipe for transporting supernatant of the aerobic granulation tank to the anaerobic granulation tank except the sludge granulated in the aerobic granulation tank; and

a discharge pipe for discharging supernatant of finished water which is obtained after circulating a series of the anaerobic granulation tank, the first transport pipe, the indirect aeration tank, the second transport pipe, the aerobic granulation tank, and the third transport pipe repeatedly.

2. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the first transport pipe connects the upper part of the anaerobic granulation tank with the lower part of the indirect aeration tank, and the second transport pipe connects the lower part of the indirect aeration tank with the lower part of the aerobic granulation tank, and the third

- 5 transport pipe connects the upper part of the aerobic granulation tank with the lower part of the anaerobic granulation tank.

3. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 2, wherein the third transport pipe is connected with a pump for controlling a flow rate of the supernatant of the aerobic granulation tank which returns to the anaerobic granulation tank.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the anaerobic granulation tank further includes a first pump for controlling a flow rate of the influent sewage that flows [[in]] into the anaerobic granulation tank.

5. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the indirect aeration tank is connected with an oxygen supply device for providing oxygen to the indirect aeration tank.

6. (Original) A method for treating sewage by using granulated activated sludge, comprising the steps of:

- a) agitating influent sewage that flows in through the lower part of an anaerobic granulation tank or returned water with an agitator to granulate suspended
5 microorganisms, to thereby form a first granulated sludge in the anaerobic granulation tank;
- b) transporting supernatant of the anaerobic granulation tank to an indirect aeration tank through a first transport pipe, except the first granulated sludge in the anaerobic granulation tank;
- 10 c) supplying oxygen to the supernatant transported to the indirect aeration tank;
- d) transporting aqueous solution saturated with dissolved oxygen by receiving oxygen in the indirect aeration tank to the lower part of an aerobic granulation tank through a second transport pipe;
- e) agitating the aqueous solution transported to the aerobic granulation tank with
15 an agitator to granulate suspended microorganisms, to thereby form a second granulated sludge in the aerobic granulation tank;

f) transporting supernatant of the aerobic granulation tank to the anaerobic granulation tank through a third transport pipe, except the second granulated sludge in the aerobic granulation tank; and

20 g) discharging supernatant of finished water which is obtained after circulating a series of the anaerobic granulation tank, the first transport pipe, the indirect aeration tank, the second transport pipe, the aerobic granulation tank and the third transport pipe repeatedly through a discharge pipe.

7. (Original) The method as recited in claim 6, wherein water flow is induced based on gravity by forming the first transport pipe to connect the upper part of the anaerobic granulation tank with the lower part of the indirect aeration tank, the second transport pipe to connect the lower part of the indirect aeration tank with the
5 lower part of the aerobic granulation tank, and the third transport pipe to connect the upper part of the aerobic granulation tank with the lower part of the anaerobic granulation tank.

8. (Original) The method as recited in claim 6, wherein the third transport pipe is connected with a first pump and controls a flow rate of the supernatant of the aerobic granulation tank that returns to the anaerobic granulation tank by using the first pump.

9. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 6, wherein a flow rate of the influent sewage that flows in through the lower part of the anaerobic granulation tank is controlled by using a second pump.